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LETTER DATED 30 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Acting upon the instructions of my Government, I would like once again to draw your attention to the tragic situation in central Bosnia, where an offensive by Muslim forces continues at the expense of the civilian Croatian population. Thousands of Croats have been ethnically cleansed from that area, and almost 200,000 of them are surrounded by Muslim or Serbian forces in several small enclaves. A United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) report from the field dated 29 July 1993 stated: "Bosnian Army forces are reported to be advancing south, pushing back Croat forces".

I must remind you that the Republic of Croatia, in two letters addressed to the Security Council (S/25920 and S/26146), raised the question of the aforementioned problem and called for an emergency meeting of the Security Council. Unfortunately, the Security Council has so far not taken appropriate measures that would suffice to stop the attacks against Croats in central Bosnia. I therefore repeat the call for an emergency meeting of the Security Council, in the sincere hope that it will benefit all the endangered people on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Considering that thousands of innocent lives in central Bosnia are in serious jeopardy, my Government urges the Security Council to proclaim safe-area status for the following areas: Bugojno; Jablanica; Prozor; Kresevo-Kiseljak-Fojnica; Novi Travnik-Vitez-Busovaca; and Vares. Placing these areas under United Nations protection is essential for preventing a human disaster and establishing firm peace in the entire region.

The Republic of Croatia is ready to provide its full support to UNPROFOR in the noble task that it is undertaking in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this regard, Croatia will continue to do all it can to allow for the uninterrupted delivery of humanitarian aid in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to repress all kinds of extremism that are threatening the security of the peace forces and undermining the efforts for peaceful settlement of the crisis. I want to emphasize that Croatia favours all measures aimed at effective protection of UNPROFOR personnel, and accordingly will support appropriate decisions made by the United Nations Secretariat and the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative